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Postcards of the Past: A Window Into the History of Communication

Upon removing and viewing the first postcard, I noticed the avocado green one-cent stamp with a profile of George Washington in the upper right hand corner of the postcard. The idea that stamps were forty-eight cents less was the first thought that entered my mind. Most of the postcards either had a one-cent stamp with a profile of George Washington or Benjamin Franklin. There were a few postcards with candy apple red two-cent stamps with a profile of George Washington. In addition, a few of the postcards had a plum purple three-cent stamp with the Statue of Liberty on them. The three-cent stamps were placed on the post cards after the 1950s.

Postcards are an excellent manner in which to obtain a pictorial glimpse into the history of a particular location. These windows into locations across the world served as inexpensive, mass-produced means of communication, which were especially prominent during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Postcards are also an exceptional source of social history, because they show what was popular or seen as important in the area in which the postcard was sold. Irony abounds, as the inexpensive postcards became largely communication vehicles for the American wealthy and elite, contrary to their European peers who traveled more frequently. The average family simply could not afford the overwhelming expenses associated with lengthy travel, compounded by the cost of lodging. Extravagant vacations and summer trips were in essence distilled to such a mass-produced, inexpensive form of sharing experiences. It is this fact that prevails as the underlying reasoning behind the significance of postcards, and moreover the lives they encapsulate. Travel in the American Northeast, hub of many of the nation's rich and powerful for centuries, offers invaluable insight into the prevalence of postcards. The location of choice for many of New York's elites consistently has been their retreats and summer oases along Long Island. A deep dive into the interwoven nature of postcards and the evolution of communication at large, Long Island history, and the lives that participated in the inextricable connection between the two will reveal much in regard to forgotten history.

"Those who only know the postcards of today can scarcely be expected to appreciate what they mean to people sixty or more years ago" (Carline 9). The significance of a United States postcard has drastically changed over the last century. During the early twentieth century, people used to send postcards to friends or relatives, hoping to receive one back (Carlin, 9). "The postcard was not invented" (Staff 8). Instead, it actually evolved over time due to people's writing habits (Staff 8), as travelers wished to share personal messages from sites across the

world. So too, the postcard itself evolved from European origins, characterized by the immense curiosity on the part of European citizens for markedly different cultures just beyond their own borders. During the1860s, there was a heated discussion to declare a uniform postage rate for all letters sent via mail (Staff 44). In Austria, prominent Post Office official, Dr. Heinrich von Stepan, suggested an idea of using an "'open post-sheet,'" (*offenes Postblatt*) which is how he described a postcard (Staff 44). His idea was rejected. German officials did not have the administration necessary to enforce such an idea, however some companies began producing postcards privately. In 1869, Dr. Emmanuel Herrmann, an Austrian professor of economics, re-introduced the necessity to create postcards. Postcards would be much cheaper and easier to send than a traditional letter (Staff 46). This time, the Austrian Post Office agreed to officially adopt the use of postcards. The first (public) postcard came into being on October 1, 1869. Lines for an address were on one side, with lines for a correspondence on the other (Carline 37). Before postcards, letter recipients were required to pay postage costs (Klamkin 29). This made the average citizen hesitant to send letters. If a recipient did not deem the letter useful or valuable, they would not pay for it, which meant they did not get to read it.

For the purpose of my research with primary documents, I considered the importance of the postcards that were part of the Hofstra University Special Collections section of the library. I had the opportunity to view a collection of hundreds of postcards that ranged from the early to mid twentieth century, (1906-1956) from various locations on Long Island. A third of the postcards did not have any writing on them, which was ineffective for the purpose of this paper. The one hundred postcards that were selected were similar in their dimensions, themes, and messages.

The size of the postcards studied in the course of research was 5.5 by 3.5 inches, which is a universally standard size of postcards. Each postcard needed to be removed from a handmade cardstock similar to paper, which preserved the postcard from being ruined. Furthermore, I was required to wash my hands vigorously before touching the postcards. If my hands were not clean, the oils and dirt from my hands would be transferred onto the postcards, thus tarnishing them for future use. After washing my hands, I was able to remove each postcard, one by one from its protective pouch. I did this nearly two hundred times, and finally transcribed one hundred of the postcards. Some of the postcards I came across did not have any writing on them at all, which supports the collection theory- that many sought to purchase postcards for their home archives. Upon first seeing the several boxes of postcards, I felt overwhelmed, exhilarated, and exhausted as a result of the sheer amount.

In order to understand the origins of the postcards, one must return to nineteenth century Europe. In January 1869, Dr. Emanuel Hermann of Vienna, a professor of economics, posited the idea of producing printed postcards. In late 1869, the Austrian Post Office issued the world's first official postcard. Postcards proved extremely popular, selling over two million within the first three months of production. Other countries caught on to this new way of communicating and adopted the use of the postcard. The United States finally adopted the use and production of the postcard in 1873. Letter writing was drastically transformed with the introduction of the postcard. “Long descriptive phrases and lengthy expressions of endearment” were no longer commonplace after the introduction of postcards (Staff 49). Brevity and conciseness were now paramount. In addition, the primary use of postcards changed over time. Early postcards were used as means of advertisement, while later they transformed to personal use (Carline 39). In 1889 during the great Paris Exhibition, the picture postcard began to rise to fame. This was one

of the first times where a picture was printed on one of the sides of the card to commemorate the exhibition with an Eiffel Tower (Staff 54). From this point forward, "the ascent of any monument, castle, keep or mountain was incomplete unless picture postcards were available for posting at the summit…" (Carline 44). Visitors thought the pictures on the postcards needed to be in color in order to better project the full magnitude and beauty of the locale. "People able to enjoy this taste of travel wanted their friends at home to see something of the exotic places they were visiting" (Staff 56). In the early twentieth century, everyone seemed to hurry everywhere (Carline 59). The postcard was a quick and easy way to send someone a note and picture of where he or she is and what he or she was doing. However, some people just wanted to collect postcards for their art. This lead to a craze where individuals bought every postcard they could find in order to put it into an album [Klamkin 35].

Some people were critical of the new mode of communication. They argued that postcards encouraged informalities and impoliteness (Carline 55). In addition, people felt that there wasn't enough room on the postcard (Carline 60). Furthermore, the privacy was a major issue. In 1899, the French Post Office issued instructions to its postal workers, saying they were forbidden to read the postcards, and forbidden "to send, forward or deliver any postcard bearing written insults or abusive expressions" (Staff 63). It is interesting to consider how workers were able to determine whether or not something bears insults or abusive expressions without reading the postcard. There is no obvious reason since the instructions were extremely vague. The privacy was definitely invaded. Furthermore, the postcard was not placed into an envelope. It is simply "an open piece of cardboard that might be read by half a dozen persons before it reached its destination" (Carline 55). In addition, for the purpose of this research I had to read the postcards written by numerous people, so I, too, added to the invasion of their privacy.

Upon further examination of the first postcard and subsequent postcards, I noticed that each one was stamped with a circle of black ink that was beginning to fade. The circle had a thin black line surrounding a time, month abbreviation, and location of post office. This made the process of determining the time period much easier. Another item that was observed was that some of the pictures on the reverse sides of the postcards included years of when the picture or illustration were created. The activities and information given in the postcards were along the same lines for the fifty-year period. Either a friend or family member was checking in to let someone know some sort of information. Some of the postcards contained information about meeting someone at a certain time and location. With the speed of mail, it is most likely the postcard did not arrive in time for such news. In the fast-paced world we live in today, physical mail is rightly known as "snail mail." The postcards give a brief insight into a person's daily life. Although the message was intended for a specific person, the postcards were not private. A mail carrier or mail sorter could have easily read the postcard. This idea leads to the function of the postcard, and raises several questions. Did people use letters sealed in envelopes or communicated about other, more important or private issues? What other methods were used for discussing such information?

Furthermore, since the months were stamped onto the postcards, I was able to develop a clearer sense of the time period in which sending postcards was most widespread. The majority of the postcards were sent between May and August, which are the warmer months of the year. This led me to believe that this was when people traveled and spent time on Long Island. Upon further reading of the postcards, it was clear that most of the correspondences dealt with leisure activities. The extent of the writing on the postcards was very brief. Depending on when the postcard was made, the picture either completely filled one side of the postcard, or a thin,

rectangular frame was left surrounding the image. Some of the earlier postcards did not seem to encourage writing. On one side it said “this side for the address only.” Even still, people would try to squeeze some words on the side, which contained the picture. In some cases the images were in black and white, and others were in color. This also depended on the year in which the postcard was created. The earliest postcard that I found was written in 1906, while the most recent was written in 1956. This gave me a fifty-year window to evaluate if the writing styles or activities changed.

More than half of the postcards were sent to people that lived within the state of New York. This either means that people did not travel far from home, or most of their relatives or friends lived close to where they were visiting. During the early twentieth century, transportation, such as airplanes, was not very advanced. This left people to travel either by car, by train, or in some cases by boat. Some of the writing in the postcards led me to believe that the use of cars was the most common method of transportation.

The diction and handwriting of the postcards was quite interesting. On several of the postcards the handwriting was almost illegible. A large portion of time, as well as a magnifying class was needed to decipher the messages that were written. Five of the post cards had messages written sideways, other postcards contained writing that was squeezed under a picture or into a small section. Additionally, I stumbled upon the word “motoring” in a few of the postcards. (People now simply use the word driving). According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the first known usage of the verb was in 1896, which is around the same time period of the postcards written. After looking up the definition of driving, the related searches include “drunk driving” and “reckless driving.” These related searches were not found with the search of motoring.

Motoring provided an experience and novelty during the time period since the invention of the car was fairly recent and only those elite would have the privilege of owning a car.

In addition to common words showing up within the postcards, there were certain distinctive tones within the postcards. After reading each of the postcards a number of times, I was able to decipher the tone. Some of the diction guided me in deciding the tone as well. On particular postcards it was apparent that the postcard was a friendly note or was sincere and perhaps written to an elder, family member, or friend. For example, some people seemed to be straight to the point in their writing, while others wanted to receive a response and start a correspondence with someone. The early twentieth century proved to be an era of a new form of friendship. As our country and the world developed, so too did friendship. People had a wider array of methods to communicate with one another. According to *Friendship: A History*, "friendship was the conversation about who you had been, who you were and who you wanted to be" (Caine 280). People contacted one another to discuss what they were doing, to check in, and for a discussion. "The links between friendship, entertainment and self-expression were also very important for a third group: the young" (Caine 296). There was a sense that adolescents wanted to gain more friends to seem successful. It can be said "the young people of the 1910s and 1920s helped each other become modern women and men" (Caine 297). In other words, through the use of postcards young and old alike were able to communicate.

The space on the given postcard was another important concept to consider. When you only have a mere 2.25 inches to write on, your message needs to be as concise as possible. When deciphering the messages in the postcards, it is unclear whether these postcards were a one-way mode of communication or whether they were part of a whole correspondence between two people. This was definitely an obstacle of the research process. It would be interesting to find

either other postcards or letters, if they were available, written between two people. The evolution of short-handed communication has certainly persisted, as the prevalence of social networking sites like Twitter have expanded upon the success of limited space and length of messaging.

When deciphering a postcard, it is often difficult to tell who wrote the note. Some people either did not include their names at the end of the note, or their signatures are illegible. Back in the Victorian period, it was much easier. In some cases men used red, while women used any other color. White was used for the wedding and for the honeymoon (Carline 56). Furthermore, it was not and still is not clear, whether or not a postcard necessitates a response of some sort unless clearly stated. The pictures on the reverse side of the writing were fascinating as well. All of the pictures made me feel as if I were transported back to the time period when the postcard was written. Many of the pictures were of landmarks, waterways, streets/roads, beaches or hotels. A handful of the postcards contained pictures of schools or firehouses.

At the start of the twentieth century, Long Island became an increasingly desirable location. In fact, Theodore Roosevelt was being inaugurated for his second term. The interwoven nature of American history reaches a precipice at this point, as Roosevelt spent his summers at Sagamore Hill, located in Oyster Bay, Long Island (Overton 303). Towards the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century, Long Island was evolving from an isolated rural farmland to a more easily accessible developed urban society (Overton 302). “Hundreds of thousands of people from all parts of the country explored it from end to end (Rogers and Sherwood). The Long Island Railroad was a major advancement for the future of Long Island. Chartered in 1834, the Long Island Railroad provided a train service that connected Long Island to other areas in the tri-state region such as Connecticut and Manhattan. Businesses

and companies started to transform Long Island as well. In 1910, a printing press and publishing house were opened in Garden City, Long Island (Overton 303). People began moving and exploring Long Island more and more every year.

In the midst of all the expansion, World War One broke out in Europe ultimately necessitating American involvement. At this time, Long Island was used as army and navy bases. It was an ideal location due to its surrounding waters, as well as its absence of hills. Along with these bases, industry was brought to Long Island. Airplane factories were built in Farmingdale and Garden City as well as numerous airways (Overton 308). As a result, more people found their way to visit the history that was left behind. Missile sites and other warplanes that were left behind served as interesting areas for people to explore.

Many people traveled to Long Island and spent weeks at a time during the warmer months. The main reason was due to its location. If one were to look at a map, they would see that Long Island that was easily reached by one form of transportation or another. In the warmer months, people would go to Long Island to spend time at the beaches and "motor" along. Another reason that people came to Long Island was its beauty. People wanted an escape from the fast-paced lifestyle of Manhattan or other urban lifestyles. Long Island provided serenity and seclusion. It also was a place that had "fresh ocean breezes where there was such bathing and boating and fishing as existed nowhere else…" (Rogers and Sherwood). Depending on your particular interests, a person could choose from Long Island's North Shore, Central Section, and South Shore. The South Shore, or South Side of Long Island was known for fishing in the numerous bays during the summer months (Rogers and Sherwood). Overton describes a picturesque setting in East Hampton where "the dogwood and fruit trees are all abloom in the dooryards of the fine old houses set back from the elm-shaded main street, and the grass is fresh

and green in the little burying ground close to the duck pond around which the old and new roads meet" (Overton 311). In addition, people heard of treasures and its scenery that lured people to go and explore Long Island (Rogers and Sherwood).

Another area of Long Island that was frequented in the postcards studied was the Hamptons. Southampton, during the early twentieth century, was known to be a summer colony. People may not know that Southampton was one of the first towns settled on Long Island, dating all the back to the mid-seventeenth century (Overton 312). The Village of Southampton was settled in 1640 and incorporated in 1894. The town began with a small group of English Puritans who set sail from Lynn, Massachusetts and landed on June 12, 1640 at what is now known as Conscience Point. It is the oldest English settlement in the state of New York and is named after the British Earl of Southampton. There are many leisure activities located in Southampton, including an art museum, several gardens, theaters, and beaches.

As postcards have evolved through the centuries, so too have their use in everyday life. The scope of this research, though wide-ranging, is only the tip of the iceberg in the historical significance of these windows into sites throughout the world. Postcards have waned in communicatory prevalence, but have become fiercely collected by those who appreciate the reminiscence they evoke through the images and text they contain. Though methods of communication have changed, postcards, or moreover their essence, have persisted. Revolutions in the sphere of travel have catalyzed the ease of access and have allowed the masses to participate in the natural and man-made wonders of the world.

One hundred years ago, the average family would have seen themselves as lucky to receive a postcard from some far-flung location. That same family, savings permitted, now has the opportunity to visit that same location, physically take a picture of their entire family in front

of that location, and instantaneously share that image with all their loved ones through the click of a button. Although postcards do exist in printed card form with lines for text and a delivery address, their use is not nearly as prevalent. Modern postcards exist in the plethora of social networking sites, and the wide variety of devices enabled to capture live images and videos at any locale across the world. The only manner in which these images, and the messages which may accompany them, can degrade or disappear is through the manual deletion of their existence on an internet-connected device. Before the rapid ascension of modern technology, the survival of postcards rest solely in the care their owner took to preserve and protect them.

Yet, the value of these images, our modern postcards, has decreased greatly. In our current age, with the aforementioned modes of travel, communication, and image-capturing capabilities available at far more affordable costs than ever before, the novelty and sense of wonderment interwoven with a postcard in the past has all but disappeared. The curiosity of the unknown and the foreign has been replaced with the ability to not only immediately research and view thousands of images of a location with the endless power of the Internet, but also to arrange for a trip to that very location. One ironic key component of the postcard has persisted. The openness to the postal service of the message written on the card has evolved into the open nature of social networking sites, and the knowledge that once something is posted on the Internet, it can surely be seen by those with the desire. Gone is the era of sheer innocence and genuine appreciation for the enormously different cultures and natural wonders of the world. Armed with a knowledge of "the other" and the rapidly accelerating ease of access of all spheres of modern life, the modern postcard is entirely different than its physical predecessor, yet can still serve an important role.

Works Cited

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Appendix

# +Year	Address Sent to	Picture on Card	Content
1. Aug 1912	Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Lifford 949 State Street Springfield, Massachusetts	(Picture of The windmill House, Amagansett, L.I.)	Have just come down here to rest after a hard winter and much work the most of the summer. How I should like to see you both. Hope you are both very well and very happy. Helen Lifford
2. May 1951	Miss Loraine Thurston 1309 S. Woodbridge St. Jackson, Mich	India House-Long Island's Most Luxurious Continental Restaurant Merrick Road, Bellmore	Reception Bobbie was married Apr 28, small wedding. Only 16 of us. She looked very sweet. They went to Garden City + into N.Y. Bill had to be back at work Wed a.m. May is pretty good as ever. Irene
3. No stamp on it	Master Edwin N. Lonper Darien, Conn- Boy 228	Entrance to Hawley's Park, Babylon, L.I.	Dear Edwin: - I am surely going to write you a letter- With Love G.S.L.
4. July 1918	Mr. Augusta Jenables Delmar Delaware	The Place to stop in Babylon, L.I. (Heffley Drug Co.)	Jul 4. 1918 Having a nice time at our new camp in the country Sgt Harold Bischter + Flors – First Provisional Camp Babylon Long Island 654 Airborne
5. May 1921	Miss M.A. Mahaffey 115 Hampton St. Elmhurst N.Y.	Babylon Town House, Babylon, L.I.	Stooped at Massapequa – went into the little church and cemetery. The country is beautiful. Why don't you ride Monday? H.M.D
6. May 1911	George M. Elderd Mattituck S.J. N.Y.	The Old Windmill, Amagansett, L.I.	Will be home Saturday. All is with Adress (sic) She Elderd (sic) Talmage House Amagansett L.I.
7. Sep 1934	Miss Grace Martin 137 Guy Park Ave. Amsterdam New York	"Home, Sweet home" and the Old Wind Mill East Hampton, Long Island, N.Y.	Having a wonderful time motoring along the southern coast of Long Island Jon

8. Aug 1922	Miss Ida Nelson Martling Ave Pleasantville N.Y.	Public School, Floral Park, L.I.	Dear Ida I am having a lovely time here. I guess you are too. It is a lovely place here where I am now. Love Florence
9. Feb 1912	Miss Augusta Matz 169 Sumpter Street Brooklyn, NY	Road and brook at Brookhaven, L.I.	Dear Augusta We are far from home if you want to write send it to Brookhaven, L.I. I will write a letter to you in a few days. I remain Yours truly, Dan
10. Aug 1909	Mr. J. Fred Elturg Luds Greene Co. NY	Bellport, L.I. Wyandoll Hotel	Sunday. Aug 1st, 1909 Dear Fred: Have been here since Friday evening. Beautiful place, water is Giant Smith Bay. 25 miles long and 77 miles wide with sailing and all sports – Have been visiting girlfriend and had very nice weekend. C.B.R.
11. May 1908	Miss Helen G Robbie Lyndhurst Hudson? New York	Bellport, L.I. Wyandoll Hotel	May the 27 1908 This is where we spent the night. Hope you are well. Aunt Mary
12. Sep 1911	Miss Julia Nugent Riverhead, N.Y.	The Shore Front, Bellport, L.I.	Dear Julia: This is the hotel + bay. It is lovely. Love Mal.
13. Aug 1924	Miss Annette Stearns Park Ave, Medina, N.Y.	Tinkam House, Amityville, L.I.	Aug 23, Amityville at Hershut's – Having fun times here on the water. With Love Hershut + Mabel 77 Bennett Place
14. Aug 1909	Mr. and Mrs. J Bonnell Bradley Sullivan Co. New York	Post Office, Amityville, L.I.	Best Regards From Josie
15. Aug 1915	Misses Sleumiler Villa Loraine Madison N.Y.	John St. from R.R. track, Amityville, L.I.	Hath away from Amityville Aug 3rd We are down here on the Great South Bay for the snipe shooting. David and Dr. M Guade went-out yesterday and had fine luck and have gone again today. Having a fine time. How is your father quite well I hope Love to all Glady + Webster

16. Jun 1928	Miss Bessie Barr 58 Congrove St., Roslindale, Mass.	Hall's Inn, A famous Automobile Resort, Centerport, L.I.	This is my dining place today. Have been having a fine time. All the rain seems to be falling during the night this week. Mary McCabe
17. Aug 1936	Mrs. C. Becker 556 Sanford Ave Newark NJ	Main Street Cutchogue Long Island, N.Y.	Arrived shortly after 9 o'clock last evening. Had a fine evening and a dinner of fresh blue fish. Wish you and Charlie could have had come. Love to all Dad Took a ride to this village today.
18. Nov 1909	Miss Mamie Webber Phillips, Maine	Carnegie Building, Cold Spring Harbor, L.I.	I was glad to get your postal. This is a picture of the building in which I am working. The work is very interesting and I like it ever so much. Nov. 10, '09 Lucy W. Smith
19. Aug 1924	Chief and Mrs. R.F. Wilson Alpena, Mich.	Fire House and Library, Cold Spring Harbor, L.I. N.Y.	Dear Folks; Drove three to have arriving last Tues. a.m. We took the southern route. A beautiful drive. Love Alda
20. Jul 1911	Miss Annie L. Harrison 203 Lawrence St. Haverhill, Mass	Cold Spring, L.I.	Dear Aunt Louise, I certainly did appreciate the birthday greetings from you. It's fun to have surprises! From this post you can imagine that there is a little water here and we have fine times bathing. Hope you are well and enjoying the summer. ? Love to you all Alice
21. Aug 1912	Miss Natalie Gay Monroe, Orange County, N.Y.	Brightwaters, Bay Shore, L.I.	Am down here for a while with Calders and having a wonderful time. The bathing is perfect. Love, Marie

22. Sep 1912	Mrs. Emma Bills Norwalk Huron Co, Ohio 1675 Main St.	The New Cortland, Bay Shore, L.I.	Bay shore L.I. Sep 29 1912 Dear sister – Well we are way down here now, having a fine time. We have been here almost a week. We are going to New York City tomorrow for a couple of days. I will have to wait and tell you about our big times when we get home. From Ida. In care of Mr. Samuel Barnes
23. Oct 1907	Miss Katie Griener 116 Nash St. New Haven Conn	A section of main str, looking east, Bay shore, L.I.	Dear Katie, Arrived safe at Bay Shore L.I. Wednesday afternoon. Hope you are well. The address is 70 of Specht's, Model bakery. Bay Shore L.I.
24. Dec 1907	Mrs. E.N. Lavern Palermo, Cape May Co. New Jersey	Clinton Ave., Bay Shore, L.I.	I hope to see you all at Church on Sunday. P.J. Ruver
25. Jul 1908	Miss Harriet Place Wantagh, Long Island	The Draw Bridge, Bayville, L.I. (in writing; July 5 1908- ?)	Tell Helen I would like to send her a card but don't dare Sincerely – Geo
26. Jan 1966	Mrs. Fred J. Braw 913 Dennis Ave Hudson Falls, N.Y.	Informal Garden, Vanderbilt Museum- Centerport Long Island NY	Hi! Today I walked over to this hopping center on Parkfield Rd. where I found some cards. Hard to realize it is January when you are down here. No snow! Love, Millie
27. Sep 1909	Mrs. A. Beltr 1444 E. Crotona Park New	The Riverside House, Centre Moriches, L.I.	Dear Friend, I am having a delightful time this summer. Am here at Moriches- it is lovely out here, lots of fresh air and sailing.

28. Feb 1929	Mr. J.J. Getroske Lawrence, Mass.	Cedarhurst School, Cedarhurst, L.I.	Dear Brother I am not at Glen Head anymore, here at present and this is still worse, just an old barn. How is everything at Lawrence. Hope to hear from you. Anthony
29. Sep 1915	Mr. Howard L. Baker Mechanicville NY	Main Street looking west from New Cortland Hotel, Bay Shore, L.I.	Dear H- Please mail the address I wrote to mama for 725 Quincy St, Brooklyn. Also a short white petticoat with love. Lara
30. Dec 1908	Miss Elizabeth Russell Woodbridge Conn.	Amityville, L.I. New Point Hotel	This is the creek where it flows into the bay at Amityville- We used often to walk down there and look out to sea- May you have a Merry Christmas and all the joys of the season. Lovingly, Lara Newton
31. Mar 1917	Mrs. Samuel Eldred Mattituck, L.I.	Aquebogue, L.I. N.Y. Cong. Parsonage	Dear Sammie, This is such a nice day. I wish I could walk in to see more but it is a little too far away. I am in Aquebogue. Hope this finds you well. Will send you a picture back soon. Grace
32. Aug 1908	Miss Harriett M. Lude Ambler Mounty. Co. PA	Public School, Amityville LI	Dear H. Received your letter right away. Wish I had you here to take me into the surf. S.H.
33. May 1947	Mr. A.C. Johnson Lincroft, New Jersey P.O. Box 32	Main Street and Jerome's Southern Pharmacy, East Islip, Long Island, N.Y.	We are still waiting too. Elizabeth was to come from Texas. They sure are slow down in Texas. We will let you know when it is all over and when we can visit you. Mitch wants to go by train to Red Bank and you can pick us up, OK? Billie
34. *Dec 1948	Elvin Henson 2050 Sweet Briar Lane Jacksonville, FL 32217	The old seventeenth century Windmill, Long Island NY	Thank you for your card. Just send the stamps back and thank you for your offer anyways. I think I can do better than that. Sincerely, Arthur J. Petersen 1948 south 50 East Orem, Utah
35. Aug 1947	Miss Illa F. Hoffaur Stratford Road New Britain Conn.	Town pond and the old mill East Hampton, Long Island, NY	Aug 20. Dear Illa- The mill shown in this picture is one my grandfather used to operate. I.S.C.

36. Aug 1934	Miss Mimi Monti Moriches L.I.	Alden's Auto paint shop East Moriches, Long Island, N.Y.	Hi Mimi, Here is a new postcard for you. I don't know whether you want it or not but here it is. Mother says if you don't come over for a week that I cant come over to your house anymore, so please come. J.W.
37. Aug 1909	Miss JB Widdowfield Fulton St. Jamaica, NY	East Moriches L.I. Colonial House	Am sorry I did not see you to say good bye. My sister is very much better. How are the marshmallows and chocolate M. Burrell
38. Apr 1910	Mrs. Isaac Webb Bloomingdale New Jersey	Eastport, L.I. West Main St.	Don't know whether you have a card like this or not. Best Wishes from Stella
39. Nov 1910	Mrs. Josefine Lyons U.S. Land office Dickinson North Dakota	A Thrilling moment, Belmont park 1910 (pictured are several planes flying)	My Dear Jose! Received your letter with the news and receive hereby our heartiest congratulations- on the other side you see many flyers by the time you come to N.Y. you will find me flying too. Ernst and Lilly
40. Jul 1940	Miss E. Kallmer 367 Grand Ave Brooklyn, NY	The old mill, East Hampton, L.I.	M+J are enjoying our stay here very much. It seems so good to be away from the city- Love El
41. Aug 1949	Mr W.C. Elsen 1144 Geo Tower Rd. Rosebank Richmond City	Anchorage Inn at Blue Point, L.I.	You ought to see this place. Pop
42. May 1913	Miss Anee Lempke 27 Alabama Ave N.Y.	The Public School Brentwood, NY	Hello Annie Arrived safe and I wish you were out here. Mrs. G
43. Aug 1921	Mrs. J.L. Forbell Herald Ave. Richmond Hill, L.I.	Main Street, Bridgehampton	Just spending a few days in Bridgehampton Anna Robinson
44. Sep 1908	Mrs. Harriet Murray 104 Magazine St. Cambridge, Mass.	Merrick Road, Baldwin, L.I. (in writing- right at the foot of our street- Ralph R. King)	Dear Mrs. Murray, I hope you are well and able to enjoy the bright sunshine of these fine autumn days. I had a most enjoyable stay at your home. To you all, sincerely Ralph Richards King

45. June 1908	Mr. J. Chaltender 448 East 136 St. New York City	Main Street, Babylon, L.I.	I am having a nice time. Come over Sunday morning. R.
46. May 1938	Miss Eliza Hall Wickford R.I.	Watson House, Babylon, L.I.	Here is another card for your collection. I made a safe journey but the children were very tired. Annie Smith
47. Aug 1928	Miss C.H. McCreary 3 John St. Jamaica, N.Y	Steamboat Dock, Babylon, L.I.	I am enjoying my vacation very much. Hope you have enjoyed your birthday. Regards Mary
48. Aug 1908	Miss Naomi W. Parks 1322 Calumet Ave Chicago, Ill.	Amityville, L.I., Merrick Road looking west	Having a swell time out here. Wish you were along to join in this fun. Yours Grace Fourner
49. Jun 1911	Mrs. Greaves East 18 St. Patterson New Jersey	Long Island Home, Amityville, L.I.	We are having a very nice time out fishing every day Mrs. Shackleton
50. Nov 1953	Pat+Mable Harvey 180 Margaret St, Plattsburg, NY	Municipal building, Amityville, Long Island, NY	Hello Pat and Mable Made the trip, All O.K. Got in White Plains at 11:30 and we are now at Peggy's and Ernie having a grand time. Will see you soon. Gordon

51. Aug 1925	Mrs. J.R. Worthington 1 Main St. East Hampton Conn.	War monument at entrance of cemetery Huntington, L.I..	I am having a lovely time and kept busy every minute. Verra
52. Aug 1911	Miss A. Bourgen Westport Ct.	Shore Road, Huntington, L.I.	Albert and I are out in the car again on one of our long trips but on L.I. this time, not so many people live here. Hope you are well again. M. + A.
53. Mar 1923	Miss J. Barnes 3838 Albermark Ave. Drexel Hill, PA	The old great mill, Huntington, L.I., NY	Today a lovely winter day- cold + clear. Am writing this in a candy shop while dad is talking shop. Loads of Love, Martha
54. Jul 1914	Miss C. Schitzler 255 Linden St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	Fairview Avenue, Huntington, L.I.	This is a very pretty place. Am having a lovely time. (Hope you are too). H.E.M.
55. Jul 1908	Mrs. Kensey Orchard St. Hempstead, L.I.	Main Street, Huntington, L.I.	We arrived home safe. From, Mrs. Valentine
56. Feb 1908	Miss Harriet Place Wantagh, Long Island	Road Scene at Huntington Harbor, L.I.	Wish you could see the race. It is certainly something.

57. Jul 1938	Mr. H Meryer	Fire House, Hicksville, N.Y.	Dear Harvey Spending Sunday at Gertrude's home -Pearl
58. Jul 1913	Mrs. R.J. Glen Odell, N.Y.	Broadway looking north from M.E. Church, Hicksville, L.I.	Are at this place today C
59. Aug 1911	Miss Kilbert 4 Breed Terrace, Lynn, Mass	Broadway looking north from old country road, Hicksville, L.I.	All O.K. W
60. Feb 1912	Miss Adele Jenkins Harding on Hudson N.Y.	The oldest house in Hicksville, L.I.	Arrived home 5:50 p.m. Had to leave from Grand Central at 3:45 p.m. Had a fine time at the masquerade. H.D.
61. Oct 1956	Mr. H.G. Dickerson 75 Robert St Roslindale, Mass	Long Island National Bank Hicksville, L.I.	I will not be able to see you next Tuesday as I am in New York. I will be up as soon as I get home. Sincerely, Elizabeth Hamilton
62. Aug 1909	Miss Helen Eilers 608 Payson Ave Quincy, Ill	Junction of Broadway and Jerusalem Ave, Hicksville, L.I.	Spending a day out of town Marg
63. Sep 1909	Miss M. Brown 129 Cleveland St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	Broadway, Hicksville, L.I.	Dear Millie I wished you were here with me. I am having a lovely time. Helen kisses xxxxxxxxx
64. Jul 1909	Mr. and Mrs. Partlon Huntington, N.Y.	The Triangle, Hicksville, L.I.	Love and best wishes to all Gloria
65. May 1907	Mr. Fred W. Conner 138 Harrison St. Passaic, N.J.	Picture of houses	Took this picture in front of my house. Why didn't you stop when you went to Babylon. Haven't bought a motor yet. Expect to get one shortly. This is a picture of Grove St., is it not beautiful. G.P.
66. Aug 1910	Mr. Henry C. Patterson 1124 42nd St. Borough Park, Brooklyn, N.Y.	Nassau Hotel, Nassau by the sea, Freeport, L.I.	Best regards to Pa, Ma, and baby. Will

67. Nov 1927	Mr. Chao Valentine Huntington, Long Island, N.Y.	Spanish war torphy, Freeport, L.I.	A friend from Bay Shore can you guess who from?
68. Sep 1908	Mrs. O.S. Roberts 15 Kidder Av. W. Somerville, Mass.	Merrick Road west from Long Beach Ave., Freeport, L.I.	Will leave here Sunday night on either the 11 or 12 o'clock train from the Grand Central. Have breakfast ready on time for shall be hungry. Am very eager to get back to see you both. Got papa's letter. Love, Stanley
69. Sep 1925	Miss Edna Earts Maplewood, N.Y.	Woodcleft Fresh Air home and bathing Pavilion, Freeport, L.I.	I wonder how you like the new teacher. I hope I hope you will be a good girl, and have a good time. Grandma
70. Jul 1926	R.J. Crawford 1807 North Calvert St. Baltimore, Maryland	Crystal Lake House, Freeport, L.I., N.Y.	Hello Raymond, I am getting along fine out here and like this country home. Mike
71. Mar 1921	Mrs. Lamb 190 Grand Ave. New Haven, Conn.	Church of the transfiguration, Freeport, L.I.	Easter Greetings from M.E. Fairbanks
72. Jul 1911	Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Warren 38 Church St. West Haven, Conn.	Shinnecock Canal from the Locks Hampton Bays, L.I.	Dear Friends: We're having a good time. Nice and cool here. Hope you are well. Valerie's enjoying herself. Best Regards, Ruth Ed + Valerie White
73. Aug 1958	Mrs. Weinmann 45 Clark Road Lowell, Mass.	Boats on Harbor	We are to see one another at Theo's on Aug 12th. Can't wait to hear about you. I'm here for another week, good weather. Love, Ernie
74. Aug 1906	Mr. Burton Gray 96 Island Brook Bridgeport, Conn	Hempstead Lake, Hempstead, L.I.	This is fine.
75. Jul 1912	Helen Ollinger 38 Bogart St. Brooklyn	Birds Eye View of Hempstead, N.Y.	Down here for the summer. Hope all is well with the family. Best Wishes Madeline
76. Oct 1923	Richard Steinberg 1411 Frost Lane New York	Fire Department Building, Hempstead, N.Y.	Dear Richie: Received your cards and glad everything is great. Lewis smiled when he received your postal. Wendy

77. Aug 1911	Otto Smith Bridgeport, Conn.	Glen Street, Glen Cove, N.Y.	I am going to the Cove tonight. Send me a postal once in a while. E.
78. Dec 1906	Mrs. Emil Bergman Second Ave College Point, New York	The Oriental Hotel, Glen Cove, L.I.	I wish it was summer time Emil.
79. May 1898	Fowler Williams 140 Bellevue Ave Upper Montclair, NJ	New Bridge, Glen Cove. L.I.	Hope you had a good time at Aunt Carrie's father
80. Jul 1920	Mrs. Gertrude Smythe 342 First Avenue New York	Glen Head, L.I.	This place is delightful. Need to come back with you and William. Edna
81. Aug 1916	Miss Virginia Lohmann 416 East 8th St, Bet. Ave C and D Flatbush, Brooklyn, NY	St. Mary's School, Garden City, L.I.	Love from Ruby
82. Jun 1908	Miss Alice Bourger Westport, Conn.	St. Mary's School for Girls, Garden City, L.I.	We are having a fine time and lovely weather Helda.
83. May 1908	Mr. M.A. Clark Syracuse, N.Y.	Garden City Hotel, Garden City, L.I.	This is about a mile from where I am staying. - L. Chrisman
84. Jul 1906	Miss Emily Dahl 104 Logan St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	St. Paul's School, Garden City, L.I.	Dear Emily, We are here having a lovely time. Etta
85. March 1934	Mrs. Beatrice Ricker 6 King St Rochester, New Hamp.	Adelphi College, Garden City, L.I.	It is a lovely spring day and nice and warm. I hope to have a day off this week to do a little shopping in Hemstead (sic) N.Y. Nick
86. Sep 1911	Mrs. Anna M. Jice Florence, N.J.	Nassau Boulevard, Garden City Estates, Long Island, N.Y.	We are doing Long Island in auto. William
87. Jun 1906	Mrs. Albert Phillips East Hampton, Long Island	Greetings from Glen Cove	To: Aunt Rose From: Frank

88. Jul 1929	Mrs. A Hicksen Bridge St., Greenport, Long Island, N.Y.	The Oriental, Glen Cove, L.I., N.Y.	Hear Ma: First arrived at Bar Harbor last night. Leaving this evening to East Port and then on from there. Hope all is well at home. With love to all, Otto
89. Jul 1913	Mr. Geo B. Weldon 30 Boulevard Loop Weehawken, N.J.	The Hall, Glen Cove Landing, Glen Cove, L.I.	This place is right on the sound. I believe I will be here nearly the full summer. This was an old mansion once but now boarders occupy it. Mel
90. Jul 1905	Mrs. A. Barry Abington, Mass.	St. Paul's Church, Glen Cove, L.I.	This is the nicest Church. I send you this card so you know we have arrived. Ed
91. Aug 1911	Mr. Julio Kuntson 95 Summit St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	The Mall, Glen Cove Landing, Glen Cove, L.I.	Please don't forget to call this month. I am sad I wont be able to join you. I like to check in and see how things are going. Edward
92. Jul 1911	Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Warren 38 Church St. West Haven, Conn.	Shinnecock Canal from the Locks- Hampton Bays, Long Island, N.Y.	Dear Friends: We're having a good time. Nice and cool here. Hope you are well. Valerie's enjoying herself. Best Regards, Ruth, Ed, and Valerie White
93. Aug 1958	Mrs. Carl Wenigmann 45 Clark Road Lowell, Mass.	Picture of boats in harbor	Hear we are to see one another at Theo's on Aug 12. Can't wait to hear all about you. I'm here for another week, good weather. Love, Grace
94. May 1908	Mrs. John Surly Fairfield, Conn.	Fulton Ave. looking West from Clinton, Hempstead, L.I.	Hoping you are all well, with love from Mary.
95. Jul 1928	Mr. Richard Fonte 321 Ave B New York	Fire Department Building, Hempstead, N.Y.	Dear Ric: Received your cards and glad everything is fine with you and the family. I will make sure to write back soon. Wilda
96. Oct 1907	Miss Edith Gapson Garden City, N.Y.	Meadowbrook Club House, Hempstead , N.Y.	Will see you tonight "Honey Boy"
97. Mar 1910	Miss Larrabee East Walpole, Mass.	Main St., north from Front St. Hempstead, N.Y.	Hope you are having a good time. Here is my address to write me: 57 Hilton Ave Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y.

98. Jul 1917	Miss Lara Ripley 728 Larson Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.	Entrance to Greenfield Cemetery, Hempstead, L.I.	Dear Lara, I hope you have not forgotten me so soon. From Margaret
99. Feb 1936	Mr. Mathers Hawley, Penn.	Fulton St. East from Franklin St., Hempstead, L.I.	Having a fine time. Quincy
100. Oct 1915	Miss B. Lange Broadway Ozone Park, L.I.	Belmont Memorial Hospital, Hempstead, N.Y.	No news is good news. Will follow up soon. Pete